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THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 52 www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 131, No. 52

Teachers in the Van Buren Public Schools had a little something extra to be thankful for last month when 54 of them received grants to help fund classroom projects.

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THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 69, No. 52

The Detroit Circus will bring their high-energy performance to the Village Theater in Canton just in time for New Year's Eve.

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THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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Celia Gold, the author of The Hair Fairy: My Angel, visited Romulus Middle School recently to bring her message of self- confidence to young women.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE

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The next Distinguished Young Woman program will take place March 10 and preparations are already under way to find participants.

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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The City of Westland is seeking applicants to fill vacancies on the Construction Board of Appeals and applications can be mailed to the mayor's office.

See page 3.

Ethics question fuels heated response

The simmering enmity between members of the Wayne City Council boiled over last week in response to a request to place a discussion of the ethics, policies and procedures committee report on the next meeting agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Anthony Miller explained to the council members that he had requested that this topic be added to the Dec. 20 meeting agenda, without success. Therefore, he said, he was making a formal motion requiring a vote to ensure that the item would be on the agenda and discussed at the next meeting. As part of his motion, he suggested that all financial transactions with businesses owned by any city council member be suspended until "we have a code of conduct and ethics in place."

Councilman John Rhaesa said that he felt the motion was a personal attack on him and his business. Rhaesa is the owner of The Wayne Dispatch, a monthly publication and JoNah Graphics. The city does business with both companies placing advertisements in the publication and purchasing typesetting and graphic design.

> *Councilman John Rhaesa said that he felt the motion was a personal attack on him and his business.*

Rhaesa referred the question to the city attorney, Breeda K. O'Leary-Brassfield, asking her to read a legal opinion prepared by her office in 2012 regarding the situation. She said that her office had researched the legality of the city placing ads in Rhaesa's newspaper; of council members writing articles for the paper and of council members placing private articles in Rhaesa's publication.

O'Leary-Brassfield cited Michigan Compiled Laws 15.321, which she said supersedes any local ordinances or charter provisions. She said the law states that public servants who are not required to work 25 hours of more a week would not be in violation of the law or any ethics provisions by doing business with the municipality in which they hold office.

A review of the ordinance she cited could appear open to interpretation, experts said. Provisions of Michigan Compiled Law 15.328: Other laws superseded; local ordinances. Sec. 8. "It is the intention that this act shall constitute the sole law in this state and shall supersede all other acts in respect to conflicts of interest relative to public contracts, involving public servants other than members of the legislature and state officers, including but not limited to section 30 of 1851 PA 156, MCL 46.30. This act does not prohibit a unit of local government from adopting an ordinance or enforcing an existing ordinance relating to conflict of interest in subjects other than public contracts involving public servants." The work Rhasea's companies pro-

See **Ethics,** page 3

Sounds of the season

As has become a holiday tradition, students from the various music classes and groups at the Plymouth Educational Park visited the Plymouth Noon Rotary Club meeting and presented a concert of holiday songs and music. Every year the students, who are the lunch guests of the club members, entertain at the last Friday meeting before Christmas, providing instrumental music and vocals.

Photo by Dave Willett

Senator requests election investigation

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and 22 of his Senate colleagues have formally requested a state investigation into systemic poll book irregularities that are coming to light after the election on Nov. 8.

According to a published report, in 59 percent of Detroit voting precincts, the poll book ballot count did not match the machine ballot count. By Michigan statute, the ballots in these precincts cannot be recounted, but they do indicate voting irregularities that merit further investigation.

There are at least three potential explanations for these discrepancies:

A failure of the machine required a ballot to be reinserted into the machine. When this happens, poll workers are supposed to manually adjust the machine ballot count to reflect the additional scan attempt(s); multiple ballots that were not tracked in the poll book were inserted into the voting machine and a single ballot was intentionally reinserted into the voting machine multiple times.

One example of suspicious vote irregularity was witnessed by an observer of the recount in Detroit voting precinct 152. In this precinct, a recount volunteer reported that when election officials opened a box sealed and certified as reflecting 306 votes, only 50 ballots were found in the box.

"The state needs to investigate whether or not the cause

See **Probe,** page 4

Officers injured in 2 holiday eve crashes

An Inkster police officer and another motorist were injured in a Christmas Eve accident last week.

Michigan State Police were called to the area of Carlysle near Inkster Road at about 2:15 a.m. Dec. 24 where an Inkster patrol car had been struck in the front passenger side at the wheel and fender area.

According to police reports, officers in a patrol car were responding to an emergency call and had both their lights and siren activated. The lead patrol car traveled through the intersection at the light which was blinking red/yellow. A second Inkster patrol car, attempted to follow the first through the intersection on a blinking red light and was struck by a northbound vehicle.

The Inkster officer went off the road and came to a stop a short distance from the collision. The truck which struck the patrol car spun back and came to a stop inside a party store parking lot facing eastbound.

The officer and the civilian driver were both transported by ambulance to local area hospitals. According to police reports, it does not appear that their injuries were severe, but the driver of the truck complained of neck and facial pain and the officer suffered hip and back pain.

The incident remains under investigation by the Metro South Post of the Michigan State Police and the reconstruction unit.

A Canton Township officer was also injured in a vehicle collision during the holiday weekend.

At approximately 7:20 p.m. Dec. 23, Michigan State Police Troopers assigned to the Metro South Post responded to a crash on Michigan Avenue in Canton Township.

A Canton patrol officer was responding to a call from motorists about a car traveling the wrong way on Michigan Avenue. Police reports indicated that the driver of a 2007 Ford Focus was traveling the wrong way when it struck the Canton Township patrol car.

The driver of the Focus was transported to a local hospital with non-life threatening injuries, police said while the officer was treated and released from a local hospital.

This incident, too, remains under investigation by Michigan State Police.

Plymouth - Romulus

Tiny train exhibit pulls into Plymouth library

The Plymouth District Library will be showcasing the splendor of Europe, albeit in 1:87 scale, from 9:30 a.m. until 9 p.m. today and tomorrow and Jan. 2-3. The Great Lakes Chapter of the European Train Enthusiasts will share their modular H0 scale model railroad, featuring European model trains running through cities and countryside.

The extensive display will consist of interchangeable modules, each measuring 2 by 4 feet. Four trains can be run simultaneously in a circular manner; cutting through European countries and landmarks, such as a German beer garden, the Berlin wall and a Dutch windmill.

Overhead wires will convey the electricity needed to run the trains, similar to actual trains moving about in Europe.

Local resident Jan Eisen is a member of the Great Lakes Chapter of the European Train Enthusiasts (ETEGL) and is overseeing the installation of this display at the library. A member of the organization since 2000, Eisen was the owner of Eisenbahn Model Trains, a shop which was located in Plymouth a number of years ago.

The group meets for lunch on the first Saturday of every month at Station 885 and draws members from as far away as Ft. Wayne, Toledo, Grand Rapids, New Baltimore, and Port Huron. The members of the group participate in five or six train exhibits each year. For more information about the group, visit www.etegl.org

There is no admission charge for this library display - it is made possible by the Friends of the Plymouth District Library. The library is located at 223 S. Main St. in downtown Plymouth.

For more information about the library exhibit, call (734) 453-0750.

Romulus Middle School student Amanda Hubbard, above, was among more than 40 students who heard author Celia Gold speak during her recent visit to the school. Students each received a copy of Gold's book and a Dorsey gift certificate.

The Hair Fairy

Author visits Romulus Middle School

After spending more than 23 years teaching, helping young people was part of Celia Gold's daily life.

Until she left the profession and spent two years battling depression.

"I did not know who I was and I felt like I was hiding behind a mask my whole life," said Gold. Her mindset began to change when her therapist asked her a simple question: "Do you like your hair?"

> *Do you like your hair?*

Gold says this was a turning point in her life, having felt she needed to wear wigs through the duration of her life and career, hiding her natural hair. A defining moment took place once she decided to have her hair done at the Dorsey School of Beauty, a choice that led to her feeling she had found her true identity.

"I felt like a brand-new person again, the cosmetology professionals helped inspire me to find myself and overcome my emotional troubles," Gold said. This new mindset led Gold to writing and illustrating her young adult fiction book titled "The Hair Fairy: My Angel". Her new mission is to mentor young women and to instill in them an internal confidence and a sense of hope. Gold said she wants young women to believe that all things are possible, a message in her book.

Gold and her team visited Romulus Middle School Dec. 22, where she delivered her inspirational message and also provided 40 students with a copy of her book along with a gift certificate to the Dorsey School of Beauty in Taylor.

"I just want young ladies to embrace their identity and to know life is good," Gold said.

The Hair Fairy: My Angel is available on lulu.com.

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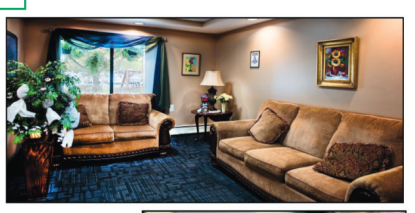

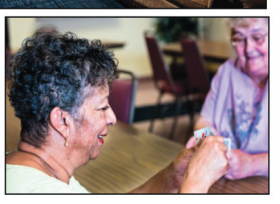

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THE REAL STORY
UNITED WAY – "Volunteers sought for Rake 'N' Go"
County memorial is long overdue tribute
School board moves forward on bond issue
Competent police work leads to arrests of armed robbery suspects

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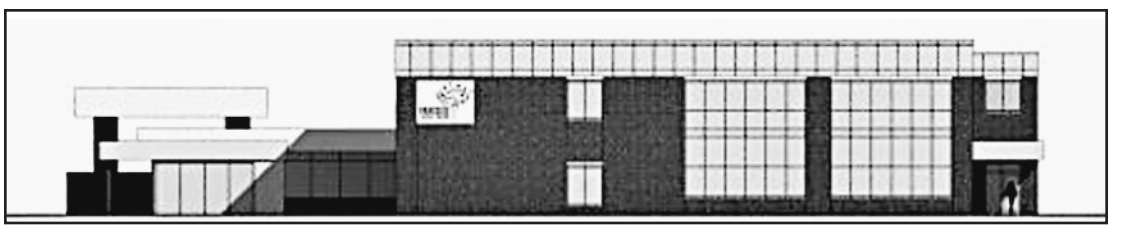
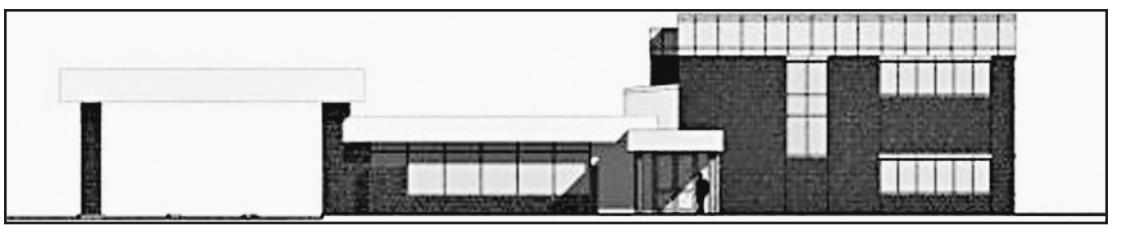
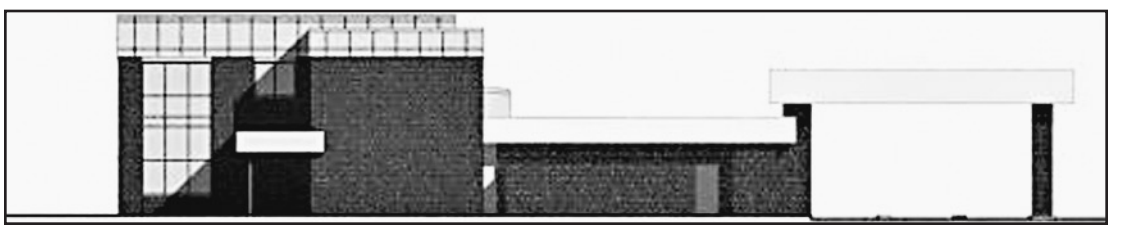
PLYMOUTH VOICE THE REAL STORY

WAYNE - WESTLAND

Council OK's $4.2 million expansion of credit union







Westland City Council members recently approved a $4.2 planned expansion of Parkside Credit Union on Newburgh Road.

The expansion will include an addition of 7,643 square feet and will be a two-story building totaling 15,291 square feet located at 1747 South Newburgh Road. The branch will also be renovated with new technologies and service levels.

"The primary purpose of the addition is to continue to improve the financial well-being of our members and the communities we serve,"commented Janet Thompson, president and CEO of Parkside during the regular meeting of council Dec. 19.

The addition will allow Parkside to establish their Westland location as the main office, she added. The location will house 40 members of the administrative staff who are currently scattered at various locations.

"We are excited to see such a large investment in Parkside Credit Union's Westland location and look forward to serving as their main hub for business operations," commented Mayor William Wild.

Construction Board of Appeals applicants are sought

The City of Westland is seeking applicants to fill vacancies on the Construction Board of Appeals.

A Construction Board of Appeals is required by state law to provide local administrative recourse for matters relating to construction code administration and enforcement issues that arise from the administration of the building department and to handle highly technical issues related to construction code compliance.

The board consists of no fewer than three members. Governmental subdivisions may establish terms of office or comply with those set forth in the law, which requires that members be appointed for 2-year terms. Appointments will be made by Mayor William R. Wild.

A member of the board of appeals must be qualified by experience or training to perform the duties, pursuant to the State of Michigan Building Code. Members must have background in construction and a working knowledge of the codes being enforced by the governmental subdivision in order to process appeals and consider variances.

Anyone interested in serving on the Construction Board of Appeals, should send a resume to the mayor's office, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185.

Ethics

FROM PAGE 1

vide might not be strictly categorized as "public contracts" as the city has never utilized any bidding process for the work sent to his companies, experts said.

The Wayne City Charter prohibits city officials from doing business for personal enrichment with the community unless a vote of two-thirds of the council members deems such action "in the best interest of the city." The issue may center on the question of whether the ongoing relationship with Rhaesa's companies is a "public contract" under Michigan law.

Council members questioned the amount of business done with Rhaesa and his companies and the ability of other members of council to also do business with the city.

Rhaesa noted that as different departments in the city needed advertisements, he accepted them and that since his publication goes to every home in Wayne, "it is the cheapest means to notify the entire community."

"Nobody else does what I am doing," he said in reference to his delivery. "I discussed this with the city attorney when I got on council. This is a personal attack on me and my companies. It seems you don't support a Wayne business and when I think about what my business has done for the community, it is quite disturbing."

Rhaesa referred to the latest meetings as "a s**t show" and read a vitriolic prepared statement criticizing the conduct of Councilman Chris Sanders chiding him for what he referred to as "pandering" to retirees and saying that Sanders had called him "despicable" for his support of a recent reduction in retiree health care insurance premiums in the city, reducing the benefit to a stipend paid monthly to retirees with which they can purchase individual health care on the open market. He said that he found Sanders' conduct "despicable" and called him "two faced" claiming Sanders made comments at a study session supporting the cuts to retirees' benefits.

Rhaesa's personal attack on Sanders drew objections from members of the council and audience who noted that Mayor Susan Rowe had earlier in the meeting interrupted and reproached one of the retirees who was speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting.

"I will not have any personal attacks on anyone at this table," Rowe said earlier, emphatically scolding the retiree.

Rowe did, however, opt to allow Rhaesa to complete his critical statements about Sanders and then soundly chastised all the council members.

"I don't know what agenda some members of this council have, but I am tired of the in- fighting and the innuendos. We are here to do business. If this kind of conduct occurs again, I will ask you to step away from the table," Rowe said.

"We are all supposed to be professional here. We do not make decisions lightly. We are fighting for the survival of the City of Wayne," she said.

Following two separate motions, the ethics, policies and procedures issue will be an agenda item at the Jan. 2 meeting. Rowe and Councilman Tom Porter voted no on both motions and Rhaesa voted no on the first and abstained on the second.

Distinguished Young Women meeting planned

The next Distinguished Young Woman program will take place March 10 and preparations are already under way to find participants.

An orientation meeting for young women who are juniors in high school will take place Monday, Jan. 23 at 37955 Glenwood in Wayne.

The program format has changed, organizers said, and the program now focuses on junior rather than senior high school students.

Any high school junior who lives in Wayne or Westland can register at any time at www.distinguishedyw.org and clicking on Apply Now.

Those who enter will be contacted with more detailed information regarding the orientation meeting, organizers said.

CITY OF ROMULUS
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments

Notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus will hold a public hearing at **7:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, January 18, 2017** for the purpose of considering proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Article 7, Business Districts, Section 7.03, Requirements Applicable to All Uses
Article 8, Industrial Districts, Section 8.02 Schedule of Uses, Table 8.02
Article 11, Use Standards
Article 13, Section 13.02, Landscaping Requirements
Article 13, Section 13.09, Drop-boxes
Article 14, Parking Requirements, Section 14.03, Off-Street Loading Requirements
Article 22, Section 22.03(e), Temporary Buildings and Uses
Article 23, Amendments to Ordinance, Section 23.02, Application Procedure (a)(3)
Article 24, Definitions

The public hearing will be held at the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus MI 48174-1485.

A copy of the proposed text amendments are available in the Planning Department during regular business hours - Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Questions may be addressed to Carol Maise, City Planner, Economic Development Department, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174-1485 or at 734-955-4530.

Ellen Craig-Bragg, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: December 29, 2016

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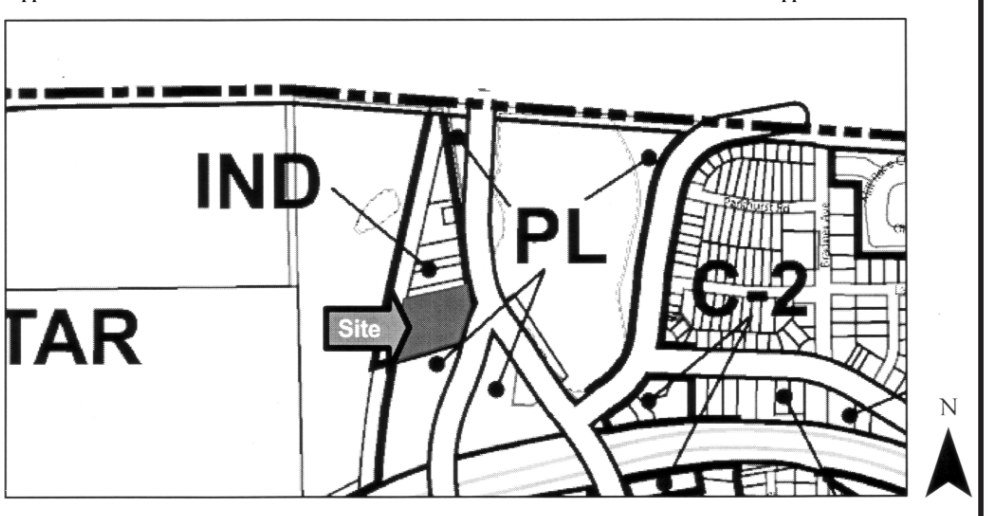
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: Request Approval of a SPECIAL LAND USE
DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, January 18, 2017
TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Plymouth has received an application requesting A Special Land Use for Personal Training/Fitness Center on Tax ID No. R-78-018-03-0078-300, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99. The property is located north of M-14, west of Northville Road, south of Five Mile Road, and east of CSX Railroad. The existing address is 15085 Northville Road. The site is zoned IND, Industrial

Application: 2226-1216 **Applicant:** Leo Gonzalez



LEGAL DESCRIPTION: for parcel/lot descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID no.(s): R-78-018-03-0078-300

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that persons interested are requested to be present. Pertinent information relative to the application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, or call 734-354-3270, ext. 5. The meeting will be held in the Town Hall Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, which is located at 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings, upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone: 734-354-3201. TDD users: 800-849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).

PUBLISH: December 29, 2016

KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY
PLANNING COMMISSION

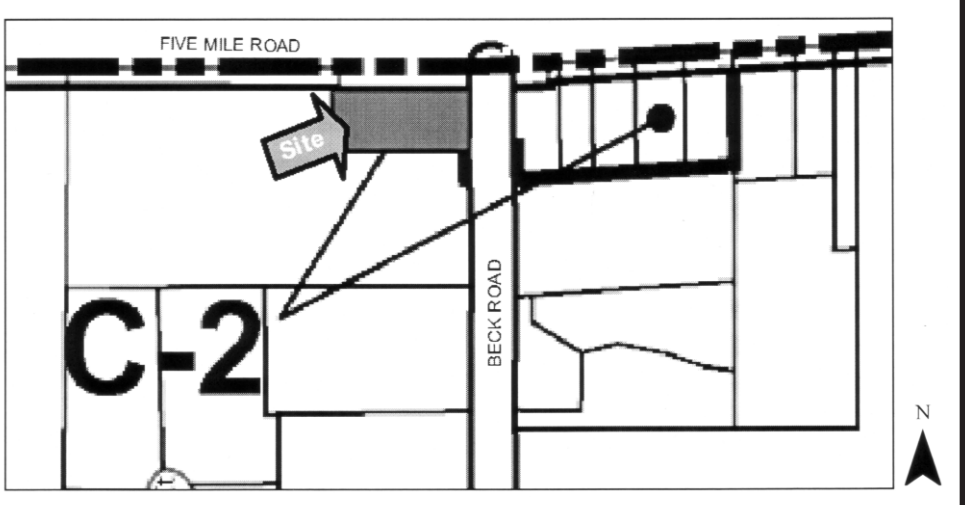
PT122916-0100 2.5 x 6.26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: Request Approval of a Special Land Use
DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, January 18, 2017
TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Plymouth has received an application requesting SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL for a shopping center with drivethrough facilities on Tax ID No. R-78-005-99-0001-001, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99. The property is located south of Five Mile Road, west of Beck Road, and north of Clipper Street. The existing address is 15257 Beck Road. The site is zoned C-2, General Commercial.

Application: 2225-1216 **Applicant:** JB Beck LLC



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KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY
PLANNING COMMISSION

PT122916-0099 2.5 x 6.26

Belleville - Canton

Probe

FROM PAGE 1

of the ballot count discrepancies in Detroit and elsewhere throughout the state are the result of fraud or negligence," Colbeck said. "While some inadvertent human error can always occur, when it is identified in 59 percent of Detroit's 662 voting precincts, the sanctity of our democratic voting process demands an investigation.

"If the investigation identifies voter fraud, the perpetrators should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. If the investigation identifies negligence, we need to define and implement a corrective action plan that will be faithfully monitored to preclude future irregularities."

Experts in the matter the discrepancies had zero chance of changing the presidential election results. The Michigan election results were certified on Nov. 28, well before the Electoral College deadline of Dec. 13. The 16 Electoral College votes from Michigan were cast Dec. 19.

"In the wake of voting irregularities throughout our state, highlighted by the 59 percent of Detroit Precincts in which the poll book ballot count did not match the machine ballot count, we need to document the problems that were experienced," said Colbeck. "This needs to be done while memories are fresh in order to help devise a plan to eliminate such concerns for future elections."

There are two separate election process phases that should be investigated to eliminate voter fraud concerns - 1) Before One Casts a Vote and 2) After One Casts a Vote. There are key principles that most if not all of people would agree upon which are necessary to preserve the integrity of the vote.

Colbeck said, "We need to ensure that each citizen is only able to vote once per election; we need to ensure that the person who casts a ballot is the person registered to cast that ballot and we need to ensure that only citizens are allowed to vote."

After the vote, "We need to ensure that every vote is counted (poll voters, absentee voters including deployed military personnel); we need to ensure that every vote is counted only once and that officially reported results are accurate and match and we need to ensure that each vote cast is kept in a secure manner under proper procedures that makes it possible to conduct an accurate audit or recount," Colbeck said.

The legislator indicated that if a person or someone they knew had observed voting irregularities that violate one of more of these principles that they provide detailed information including the county, precinct and a description of the irregularity to his office at senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov. He will then share the aggregate observations with the attorney general and secretary of state, according to his prepared statement.

"Wherever voting irregularities are identified, we need to systematically investigate precinct-by-precinct in order determining the root causes of any issues," said Colbeck. "Where there is negligence, we need an effective corrective action plan that will be monitored by the secretary of state. Where there is a vulnerability in Michigan election law, we need to fill it with appropriate legislation. Where there is outright voter fraud, we need to pursue criminal prosecutions by our attorney general."

Circus performances set

The circus is coming to Canton, just in time to celebrate New Years Eve.

The Detroit Circus will bring their high-energy performance to the Village Theater in Canton beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 31.

Crowds will witness high-flying aerial antics on fabric and the trapeze; fire dancing and eating; stilt walking and stilt acrobatics plus feats of mind-bending strength. This is an animal-free circus.

In addition to the performance on stage, audience members can enjoy a special preshow event starting at 6 p.m., featuring on-site face painting artists and strolling circus entertainers.

During this performance, skilled aerialists will dance, weave and flow through the air, while aerial hoop performers display flexibility and strength as they contort and spin. Adagio Acrobatic members will also amaze viewers with their body balancing, yoga, and maneuvers requiring two partners, who appear to push the limits of physics.

Tickets are $20 and can be purchased online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or in person at the Village Theater box office from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets include free popcorn and a non-alcoholic beverage.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton Townshp.

For more information, call (734) 394-5300 or visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org.

Teachers awarded project grants

Teachers in the Van Buren Public Schools had a little something extra to be thankful for last month when 54 of them received grants to help fund their efforts and projects in the classroom.

The grants, totaling $25,287.82 were awarded by the Van Buren Public Schools Education Fund.

Six Belleville High School teachers were awarded grants, while five educators at McBride; 10 at Owen; five at Savage; nine at Tyler; nine at Rawsonville; six at Edgemont and four at Haggerty received funds from the education fund.

Recipients included: Samantha Borashko, Mike Campbell, Nick Taylor, Stephanie Halliday, Kathy Knight, Janelle Sterling, Bill Spinks, Tim Miller, Evaristo Rodriguez, Pam O'Neill, Chris Morton , Christine Barrett, Charlotte Jackson, Peter TenBroeck, Sarah Stiles, Patricia Spudich, Gregory Kirk II, Jessica Moore, Meghann Ginestet, Shirley Brezzell, Neva Jasman, David Bargardi, Julie Dobek, Spring Jackson, Sarah Lang, Angelique Ledwell-Morrison, Becky Tennis, Laura Baker, Tania Bos, Jany Fidh, Laurie Kunz, Christine Roperti, Angela Scroggie, Cyndi Spurlock, Jane TenBroeck, Angela Scroggie, Jessica Adelmann, Tauna Byrd, Toby Fowler, Virginia Hogg, Deb Meier, Deborah Mounsey, Mike Sherman, Mary Ellen Vago, Cassidy Taylor, Sarah Brown, Joselyn Conn, Richard Shafer, Stacey English, Debbie Gerst, Cyndi Jordan, Amber Slusher, Kristy Hickson, Beth Chie, Lee Stamper, Yolanda Curtis.

Classified

01. Obituaries	32. Help Wanted Drivers	55. Estate Sales	67. Garden Plant / Supplies	89. Apartments for Rent	103. Business Property for Sale	116. Antique & Classic Cars
02. In Memoriam	33. Child Care	56. Flea Markets	68. Garden / Produce	90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent	104. Farms & Acreage for Sale	117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
03. Cards of Thanks	34. Specialized Services	57. Antiques	70. Masonry / Brickwork	92. Business Places for Rent	105. Mobile Homes for Sale	118. Freebies
04. Monuments & Cemetery Plots	35. Situations Wanted	58. Garage and Yard Sales	72. Cleaning Services	93. Banquet Halls	106. Houses for Sale	119. Auto Repairs
05. Personals/Announcements	40. Business Opportunity	59. Auctions	73. Musical Merchandise	94. Farm Land for Rent	107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale	120. Motorcycles
06. Legal Notices	42. Health and Fitness	60. Moving Sales	74. Sporting Goods	95. Real Estate	108. Lake and Resort	121. Autos Wanted
07. Attorneys	43. Money to Loan	61. Misc. Items	75. Boats / Accessories	96. Houses for Rent	109. Income Property	
08. Entertainment	44. Music/Art Lessons	62. Building Supplies	76. Remodeling & Renovations	97. Cottages for Rent	110. Lots for Sale	
09. Lost & Found	45. Adult Care	63. Business and OfficeEquipment	77. Recreation Vehicles	98. Manufactured/Mobile Homes	111. Out of State Property	
10. Coming Events	46. Private Schools/Instruction	64. Lawn & Garden Supplies	78. Hunting / Fishing	99. Flats for Rent	112. Commercial Lease	
30. Help Wanted	47. Riding/Horses/Stables	65. Tree Service	82. Wanted to Buy	100. Will Share	113. Real Estate Wanted	
31. Help Wanted Sales	50. Pets & Supplies	66. Landscape / Nurseries	87. Room for Rent	101. Wanted to Rent	114. Auto Accessories	
	54. Rummage Sales		88. Duplexes for Rent	102. Storage	115. Autos for Sale	

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8:30 am - 2 pm
Northville High School

Inkster - Northville

Fire displaces family for holidays

Don Howard
Staff Writer

In spite of the best efforts of two fire departments and 23 paid-on-call firefighters, a Northville home was completely destroyed by fire last week.

The blaze, which was reportedly caused by a space heater operating in the garage, displaced residents and caused major damage.

The fire spread quickly throughout the structure, according to official reports, and ignited a number of fireworks stored in the garage. The brick home located in the upscale Pheasant Hills subdivision north of Eight Mile Road had fire damage throughout the interior according to a restoration company employee working at the boarded-up home.

There were no injuries reported as a result of the fire according to Northville-Plymouth Fire Department Chief Steve Ott who discussed details of the fire at the meeting of the Fire Advisory Board in Plymouth last week.

"Fortunately because there were firefighters at the Northville Fire Station their response to the scene (with a fire engine)…only took 7 minutes," Ott said in a later interview about the blaze.

According to Ott, the 9-1-1 call reporting the incident at the single family residence at 990 Elmsmere was received at 5:50 p.m. Dec. 15. A total of 33 professional firefighters and paid-on-call firefighters from the Northville City-Plymouth Fire Department and the Novi Fire Department battled the fire in the bitterly cold weather for four and one half hours. The fire was determined as controlled at about 7 a.m.

Ott reported that of the 33 first responders who answered the call, 19 paid-on-call firefighters from the Northville Fire Department were called into service at the scene. He said the aerial ladder truck stored at the Old Village Fire Station on Spring Street in Plymouth was also required to access the two-story home and dispatched into service.

Novi Fire Department, one of 18 member communities in the Western Wayne County Fire Department Mutual Aid Association, responded to the call with a fire engine and four firefighters.

Novi Fire Department located in Oakland County has an automatic reciprocal agreement with Northville when there is a reported structure fire. Protocol dictates Northville city fire officials first call Northville Township Fire Department Dispatch and request the aid of the Novi Fire Department. Contiguously located Northville Township Fire Department was not asked for mutual aid according to Ott because of the automatic aid agreement already in place. Part of Novi also borders the City of Northville.

"We responded with our full structure fire response team. We would only call Northville Township if this had been a two-alarm fire," Ott said.

In this situation, the fire scene was located closer to the Novi Fire Station near Nine Mile and Novi Road than the township fire station on Six Mile Road, another the reason city fire officials did not request aid from Northville Township firefighters, Ott claimed.

According to Northville City Manager Pat Sullivan, Northville would be open to a reciprocal arrangement with Northville Township Fire Department similar to one with the Novi Fire Department located in Oakland County.

Photo by Don Howard

Firefighters complete advanced training class

Two Northville Township firefighters recently graduated from the Eastern Michigan University School of Fire Staff and Command. Firefighter Brent Muller earned the academic excellence award for finishing number one in the class and Firefighter Hugh Jordan also graduated with honors.

The Northville Township Fire Department currently has 10 graduates from the program, all of whom graduated with a 4.0 grade point average.

Muller has been serving the department for 19 years as a firefighter/paramedic. In addition he is a mentor, fire investigator, and a Blue Card instructor. He has also served the last 10 years on the Western Wayne County Hazardous Materials Response Team as a Hazmat specialist and team leader.

Jordan has served the Northville community as a firefighter for 26 years. In 2009 Jordan became a paramedic and has continued to pursue his education.

Eastern Michigan University School of Fire Staff and Command is designed to prepare the professional fire officer to effectively manage their fire agency. This management-oriented program consists of 350 hours of competency-based education spread over 10 months, according to a prepared release.

Brent Muller

Hugh Jordan

Stardust suspect arrested

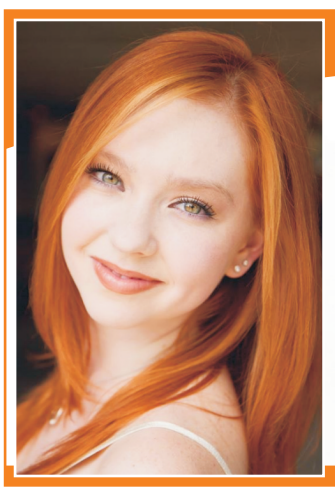
Wayne Count Prosecutor Kym Worthy has charged Rashad M. Bell, 28, of Ypsilanti in connection with the homicide of his first cousin, Joseph Franklin, 26, of Dearborn Heights

Bell has been charged with one count each of: First Degree Murder, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, and Felony Firearm.

Michigan State Police arrested Bell after he left the scene of the shooting which took place in the parking lot of the Stardust Lounge at about 2 a.m. Dec. 17.

During a private birthday party Bell and Franklin apparently got into a disagreement while playing pool at the lounge, located on Inkster Road at Carlysle Street south of Michigan Avenue.

When Michigan State Troopers responded to the scene, they discovered Franklin suffering from a gunshot wound to the lower torso. His assailant had fled the scene on foot, according to witnesses. Franklin was transported by Inkster emergency personnel to a nearby hospital where he died from the injury.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Calendar of events

Distinguished alumni sought

Nominations are being sought for the annual Belleville High School Distinguished Graduate award.

Nominations will be accepted for the annual honor until Jan. 31. The Distinguished Graduate Award is an annual honor that recognizes Belleville High School graduates who have distinguished themselves in business or profession, or have contributed to the welfare and progress of the community.

Nominees must have graduated prior to 2006. The selected honoree, or family member in the case of the posthumous award, will be invited to attend the National Honor Society induction ceremony April 28, when the award will be presented.

Nomination forms are available on the website of the Van Buren Public Schools and at the school administration building.

Congregation meets Sunday

Redeemer Lutheran Church offers worship services at 11 a.m. Sunday at Tyler Elementary School, 42200 Tyler Road in Belleville.

For more information call (734)740-4230 or access www.redeemerlutheranchurchmi.com.

Interactive Story Time continues

The Romulus Public Library offers interactive Parent/Child Story Time for children 4 and younger and parents at 10:30 a.m. every Wednesday. The program is free and no registration is required. Story time helps prepare children for success in school and beyond and is presented in partnership with the Guidance Center.

For more information, contact the library at (734) 942-7589 or visit www.romulus.lib.mi.us. The library is located at 11121 Wayne Road.

Candy Cane contest under way

The Romulus Public Library is now accepting entries in the Candy Cane Counting Contest.

Entries will be accepted through Dec. 30 from those 18 and younger who must guess the number of candy canes in the jar. There will be one winner who guesses the total number of canes in the jar. In case of a tie, the library staff will choose a random winner to be announced Jan. 2.

The library is located as 11121 Wayne Road in Romulus. For more information call (734) 942-7589 or visit www.romulus.lib.mi.us.

Santaland Diaries on stage

The Tipping Point Theatre will present The Santaland Diaries by David Sedaris starring Craig Bentley as Crumpet the Elf.

The play is based on the true chronicles of David Sedaris' humorous experience as Crumpet the Elf in Macy's department store.

Only two shows are available; 8 p.m. Dec. 30 and 31. Tickets for the Dec. 30 show are $35 and tickets for the special New Year's Eve event are $85, $40 of which is tax deductible. The Dec. 31 show includes live music after the performance by jazz pianist, Mark LoDuca Sr.

Appetizers from Rocky's will be served along with dessert, wine and a champagne toast close to midnight.

The Santaland Diaries is recommended for those 14 and older as it contains mature content and language, and the secret of Santa is exposed.

The Tipping Point Theater is located at 361 East Cady in Northville. For tickets or information, call (248) 347-0003 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Creative film workshop offered

A three-day winter break workshop, "What's Your Story?" will be available from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Jan. 2, 3 and 4 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road in Plymouth.

Participants, ages 10 through 17, will make a short film with instructor Jenn Teed. The fee is $144 for arts council members, $154 for non-members.

Using a personality trait, anecdote or life event as inspiration, students will storyboard, narrate and film a short creative piece. Students will learn and employ filming techniques and tricks of the trade. Students should bring their own recording device with transfer USB cord or memory chip. Contact lisa@plymoutharts.com with questions.

Students should pack a light lunch. The building is a nut-free facility

Online registration is available by clicking the green button on the homepage of our website, www.plymoutharts.com.

For information, call (734) 416-4278

Maps to be museum program topic

The Sanborn Maps will be the topic of a talk by Tyler Moll during a program at 5 p.m. Jan. 11 at the Wayne Historical Museum.

Moll will discuss the maps created from 1867 through 2007 to assess fire insurance liability in urbanized areas of the country. Moll will display the maps available of Wayne.

For more information, call (732) 722-0113. The museum is locate at 1 Towne Square in Wayne.

Friends sell used library books

The Friends of the Romulus Library will host a used book sale from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12 and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13 and Saturday, Jan. 14.

Saturday is bag day.

The library is located at 11121 Wayne Road in Romulus. For more information call (734) 942-7589.

Strikes For Freedom set

The fourth Bowl It Out event, dedicated to spreading the message of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is planned for 7:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. Jan. 15 at Wayne Bowl.

The event was started by Printing Plus by United Sonz and this year the theme is Strikes for Freedom with a message of hope, love and prosperity.

The team fee of $100 includes a five-person team with two games of bowling, shoe rental and a shirt.

There will be a live disc jockey, full kitchen, mystery jackpots and a portion of proceeds will be donated to the local non-profit African American Endowment Fund.

For registration and information, call (734) 485-8889.

Chamber sets date for awards dinner

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner, Holiday Party and Silent Auction is planned for Jan. 21.

This year, the event will take place at the Belleville Yacht Club (BYC) and tickets are priced at $50 per person. The ticket price includes a three-course buffet meal, beverages, beer and wine. Tables of eight can be purchased at a discount rate of $360, officials said.

The evening will include an awards ceremony during which the recipients of the Ted Kuckelman, Leona Van Buhler and Business of the Year awards will be honored.

Entertainment will be provided by Dueling Pianos and a silent auction is also planned as part of the evening. Chamber of Commerce membership awards will also be presented.

Chamber officials are currently accepting items that can be used as part of the silent auction. Donated items can be picked-up for the convenience of local merchants or businesses, officials said.

To purchase tickets or for more information, contact the chamber office at (734) 697-7151.

Friends and Chamber on a roll

The Romulus Chamber of Commerce and the Friends of the Romulus Library will host Bowling Night At Romulus Lanes beginning with registration at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28.

Bowling will begin at 8 p.m. and the $20 per person fee included three games, shoe rental, pizza and pop. There will be a 50/50 raffle and a cash bar will be available.

The event is limited to 72 bowlers and is usually a sell out.

Romulus Lanes is located at 37452 W. Huron River Dr.

For ticket information, call (734) 893-0694. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Friends of the Library and the Chamber of Commerce.

4th Annual Mayors' Ball is planned

The fourth annual Mayors' Ball is planned for 5 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017.

The event, hosted by Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley and Romulus Mayor LeRoy D. Burcroff will take place at the Belleville Yacht Club and include dancing, food, refreshments and silent and live auctions.

The event is an annual benefit for the Romulus and Belleville Boys and Girls clubs.

Tickets for the event are $100 per person and must be purchased in advance. The donation includes dinner an open bar and entertainment.

For tickets, contact event coordinator Rob McLachlan at (734) 578-5682 or rwmclachlan@gmail.com.